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SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" In view of the fact that in so many villages generally and particularly in this village, there is no rural dispensary run by the Government, when a public organization takes up the work of giving first aid, why should not the Government consider this case and give subsidies to aid the poor people? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, it is not usual to pay grants to social service organizations for activities of the kind referred to. I think the organization can apply to the Central Welfare Board for help."

Appointment of a Court of Enquiry to go into the condition of press workers.

* 170 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to appoint a Court of Enquiry to go into the condition of press workers in this State?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" No, Sir."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, as far as I remember, previously the Government appointed committees of enquiry to go into the condition of press workers in this State. In view of this arrangement already made by the Government, may I know whether the Government will consider the appointment of a Court of Enquiry to go into the condition of these workers? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, I am not aware of any such committee, since we took over office. We have already appointed Enquiry Committees regarding cement and Minor Engineering Works and let us await their report and see whether there is unanimity between the workers and managements. Then we can think of a fresh enquiry committee but it involves time, labour and money."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" The Hon. the Labour Minister has on the floor of this Assembly, said that, as far as labour enquiries were concerned, he would be pleased to consider the appointment of Courts of Enquiry for so many industries. In view of this, and in view of the fact that the press labourers also are workers getting Rs. 4, 5 or 6 a month and in view of their condition being worse, will the Government be pleased to make an enquiry into their condition? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Even if I made such a statement, subsequent information and subsequent events may call for a change of policy. There is nothing like a settled policy. It is changing. Let us, therefore, wait for the reports of the enquiry committee and consider the matter dispassionately."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" Sir, on a point of order. Whenever we make suggestions like these and ask whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to appoint committees, etc., you are pleased to return those questions saying that these suggestions amount to making suggestions . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER :—" It all depends on the merits of each case If the hon. Member brings them to my notice in my chamber, I shall consider them.".

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAY :—" The Hon. the Minister for Labour has shown that he is opposed to and is not in favour of referring disputes to Tribunals for adjudication. Then it is the duty of the Government to encourage the process of conciliation. Therefore, we do not understand why Government are refusing to appoint Courts of Enquiries and Conciliation Boards. Will Government adopt a policy of strengthening the Conciliation Machinery and grant protection to workers by resort to references of disputes at least to Conciliation Boards? Secondly I would ask . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is making a speech. I cannot permit that."

THE HON. DR U. KRISHNA RAO :—" My hon. Friend is very clever. We are dealing with Courts of Enquiry and he speaks of Conciliation Boards. These things—Court of Enquiry and Conciliation Board—are quite independent and different and as such, I will not walk into his trap by giving an answer."

Chinnar Reservoir Scheme for Perambalur taluk, Tiruchirappalli district.

* 171 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the answer to starred question No. 1151 given on 28th July 1953, the result of the examination of the plans and estimates of the Chinnar Reservoir Scheme in Perambalur taluk, Tiruchirappalli district?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" As the scheme involves the submersion of nearly 1,500 acres of useful land for the irrigation of 3,000 acres only and as definite reliance cannot be placed on the availability of water supply without detriment to supplies for existing irrigation lower down, the scheme has been deferred."

Issue of liquor permits in Malabar and South Kanara.

* 172 *Q.*—SRI T. ANANTA PAI (on behalf of Sri M. S. Mogral) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of permits for liquor issued for the years 1951–52 and 1952–53 in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara; and

(*b*) the basis on which such permits are issued?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM :—" (*a*) During the Official years 1951–52 and 1952–53, the total number of liquor permits issued was 190 (15 to Indians and